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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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DATE DISTR. 2 June 1950

SUBJECT Volkspolizeischule in  
Zittan

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1X6

1. Type: VP artillery officer candidate school.
2. Organization: School headquarters and eight companies.
3. Personnel: Inspekteur Balthasar, school commandant, was at the Moscow Central Antifa School for PAs in 1947.
  - a. Kommandeur Hagen, headquarters commandant, ex-captain of artillery.
  - b. Kommandeur Lorenzen, PK-Chef.
  - c. Polizeirat Kretschmar, gunnery instructor.
  - d. Polizeirat Gert, gunnery instructor.
  - e. Oberkommissar Schmidt, gunnery instructor.
  - f. Four more gunnery instructors.
  - g. Two communications instructors were expected to arrive.
4. Armament: Twelve 37-mm AT guns arrived at the school in late 1949; six medium field howitzers, model 18/40 (with muzzle brake), and one heavy field howitzer, model 18, arrived on 20 January 1950. Standard equipment was small arms.
5. Motor vehicles: Three trucks and four passenger cars for supply purposes only. Artillery prime movers had not yet arrived.\*\*
6. Training: The course, which started on 1 September 1949, was to last until August 1950. Until January 1950 emphasis was on political indoctrination. Instruction in weapons is to be the main subject in the Spring of 1950. After they pass the final examination the officer candidates will be

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promoted to the rank of Kommissar (second lieutenant).  
The candidates' standard of training was rather low due to the inadequateness of the ordnance personnel and the lack of service manuals.

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\* Balthasar had been CO of a German artillery regiment. When serving with the Central Group of Armies, he was taken prisoner by the Soviets in the summer of 1944. He returned from the Soviet Union to Frankfurt/Oder on 18 September 1948. He is a good natured, hearty, simple person. Though he believes in Marxism, it is doubtful that he understands it. Balthasar was President of Police in Halle in March 1949. Another source reported on 11 October 1949, that Balthasar, in Jueterbog-Altes Lager, was selecting artillerymen for an artillery regiment to be activated by him in Zittau. In early 1950 it was learned that Balthasar had been transferred to Zittau and appointed CO of a local officer candidate school. He lives with his family at 3 Friedrich-Engelstrasse, Zittau.

\*\* The required prime movers will be furnished by the Maschinenausgleichstationen (LMS-communal motor pools).

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